## AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1854.

Mr. Sidemia, (dem.) of In., presented a petition in Tavor of Americans abroad being privileged to worship,

Mr. STUART, (dem.) of Mich., presented a bill for the improvement of lake harbors. Referred to the Commit-tee on Commerce.

es on Commerce.

Mr. Foot, (whig) of Vt , introduced a bill for finishing Mr. Foot, (whig) of Vt, introduced a bill for finishing the breakwater on Lake Champiain, and argued that but \$18,000 was necessary to finish what government had begun; that Lake Champiain, lying between New York and Vermont, and extending into Canada, had a political as well as commercial importance; that the constitutional objections urged against other bills do not apply to this, and that in the event of war it would be indimensably necessary that the works should be comindispensably necessary that the works should be com-pleted. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

CEDIATION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE BUROPEAN WAR that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be directed to con-sider the expediency of tendering the mediation of the France and Turkey, on the one side, and of Russia of the other, in the hope of withdrawing the existing conversy between them from the destructive umpirage of war, so that the blessings of peace may be secured to the people of those nations, and also to the general com-merce of the world.

Mr. Rusz.—Let it lie over.

Mr. SEIDREL, (dem.) of La., moved that the Committee on Commerce be instructed to see what legislation is no sewral States in reference to nilotage. ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. BALGER, (whig) of N. C., moved that the Senate meet to-morrow, and then acjourn till Tuesday—Monday being Christmas day. Agreed to.

NAVY YARD AT BRUNSWICK. Mr. Dawson, (whig) of Ga., presented from the Gover-nor of Georgia the joint resolution of the Legislature of that State, for the establishment of a navy yard at

Mr. BRODHEAD, (dem.) of Pa., called up the bill pro widing for the establishment of a court of investigation for claims.

Mr. Cass, (dem.) of Mich, hoped that somethin

would be done to relieve Congress to promptly settle classes, and to prevent fraud. He was not particular how this was effected, but it was indispensable that it

Mr. WELLER, (dem.) of Cal., moved to strike out cour and insert board of commissioners, because judges, from the nature of their appointments, are permanent,

from the nature of their appointments, are permanent, but commissioners are removable.

Mr. Brown, (dem.) of Miss., opposed the bill mainly on the constitutional objections to the payment of the expenses of such court.

Mr. Hunnus, (dem.) of Va., replied to the objections of Messrs. Brown and Weller.

Mr. Praure, (whig) of Md, spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Waller replied in support of his amendment.

Mr. Clarron, (whig) of Del., spoke in favor of the measure and urged the necessity of having a primary examination of claims, so as to save the time, labor and confusion resulting from the present course.

Mr. Brown reiterated his objection, and said the court would cost more to suitors than a beard of commissioners or the present mode of settling claims.

Mr. Hunnun denied this, and spoke of the large sums hitherto paid by claimants in order to get their claims adjusted.

mineruo paid by claimants in order to get their claims adjusted.

Mr. Chang, (free soil) of Ohio, said the tribunal proposed was not a court—merely a board, similar to the Masters in Chanery, for reporting cassa. The appointments should be for a term of years. He entered into a discussion of general judiciary tenure, not relevant to this bill, and said he was in layor of electing the judges of the federal courts for I'm t d terms only.

Mr. Bernsu, (dem ) of S. C., was in favor of the tribunal, court, or board; particularly as it would be a check against slaim agents. He then eulogised the South Carolina courts and Judge Ruthia's decisions.

Mr. Willias replied—The board of commissioners would resemble the elective judiciary in the new States, where the elective is the province of the state of t

ushed as those by the governors.
Mr. STUART, (dem.) of Mich., spoke against the amendment of Mr. Weller,
Mr. DOUGLAS, (dem.) of Ill., endorsed his sentiments,

## WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1854.

The Braken laid before the House a message from the President of the United States, communicating the corment of the Netherlands relative to Capt. Gibson's Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

tic efforts of the government to adjust this matter have failed. He trusted the committee would report at an

On motion of Mr. STANTON, (dem.) of Tenn., the Com.

mittee on the Judiciary was instructed to inquire whe-ther further legislation is necessary for the better pro-tection of officers of the United States and others en-

completion of certain public works heretofore com-menced in Wisconsin. Referred to Committee on Com-

Mr. Shikows, (whig) of N. Y., introduced a resolu-tion, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the expediency of providing by law or otherwise for the completion of the breakwaat Plattsburg, and the purchase of a site fo: a post

which were adopted, instructing the Committee on Com-merce to inquire into the expediency of purchasing log-

and courts in Alexandria, Va.
Mr. VANSANT, (dem.) of Md., introduced a bill for an

milar purposes in Baltimore, which was adopted.

Mr. ZOLLECOPPER, (whig) of Tenn., introduced a bi regulating the rights of auffrage in territories of the United States. Referred to the Committee on Territo-

The bill authorizing the Corporation of Georgetown to impose special taxes to enable it to subscribe to the

Washington, Dec. 20, 1854.
Turn in the Know Nothing Question—America Labor Against Pauperism and Free Negroism—Know Nothings in South Carolina—Wise and Virginia—The South Becoming Know Nothing—The Houses of Congress —United States Supreme Court. The final issue which is to decide the fate of the Know

Nothing party as a national organization is at hand. It remains with the order to decide it for themselves. I have taken some pains to inform myself in regard to the temper of the leading men here, and many regard this movement of vital importance. The reasons are cogent, and at this juncture of affairs the true facts should be note of this question when, in opposing it, he said it was an "organization of labor," and Mr. Banks in reply echord this sentiment. The impression is daily gaining ground among Southern men here, that the Know Nothing movement possesses a deeper significance than ground among Southern men here, that the Know Nothing movement possesses a deeper significance that is noticed on its surface, and they are beginning to open their eyes to this special meaning of the order. They begin to realize that it is not a political movement, and that religious fanatics and political aspirants are attempting to make use of this sentiment of American white labor for their own purposes. In short the idea is current among Southern men that this Know Nothing movement is a movement of American white labor. that this labor, with the instinct of self-preservation is simply resisting pauperism. As I heard a prominent Southern man remark the other day, "The same princi-ple which makes Northern men strike against pauperism will make it strike against Africanism, free negroism abolitionism and federalism." This is true, and it re mains to be seen if Southern men will array themselves against this movement of Northern labor (for such it undoubtedly is) for mere party purposes. Will the South gratuitously place herself in opposition to the laboring classes of the South? Heretofore all encroach-ments on the rights of the North have come from the ments on the rights of the North have come from the chairs of professors, from the pulpits, from the bench, and from other high places of political influence. Men occupying these positions in the North can advocate free negroism with impunity, so far as endangering their own interests. Longfellow knows well that his seat at Cambridge will never be contested by a free negro; Seward well knows that a free negro will never divide honors with him, and Mr. Beecher never suspects that his pulpit will be shared with one of these sweet scented darkies. The privileged classes of the North, who alone heretofore have filled the abolition ranks, know from instinct and reason that, practically, they will never suffer from the curse of free negroism. Hence they have ever opposed the South. How different is it with labor. The laboring man's children, only in the event of equality of blacks and whites, will associate with the free negro children. The Northern mechanic would, under the sway of Greeley, work side by side with free negro labor. Reason shows that white labor, American labor alone, would suffer from Africanizing the country, and hence Southern men say "this labor has always been against the abolitionized and aristocratic tendencies of the Northern whig party, and with the 'Southern democratic party.'

and hence Southern men say "this labor has always been against the abolitionized and aristocratic tendencies of the Northern whig party, and with the Southern democratic party."

As startling as the announcement may seem, the great State of Virginia is Know Nothing, and stranger yet, South Carolina is the same. Alabama is going over like a torrent. Even in the district of the Hon. G. S. Houston of that State, leading democrats are joining the order, while an universal sympathy extends to the order from outsiders. In Mississippl the strongholds of the democratic party are giving way. In Georgia the sentiment is almost unanimous. The people of the South consider this new order a movement of labor to save itself from pauperism and negroism, and they say to it "God speed." Gentlemen may disguise it as they please, but such they know to be Southern sentiments, and furthermore they argue this sentiment will be strengthened by the defeat of Soward, and carry the South like a shiriwind. These are not random suggestions, but good wholesome truths, and events now rapidly developing will prove it. I would not be at all surprised to find more than one prominent democrat take this position openly in the House. Understand me. They de not perhaps sanction or defend the "secrets" of the order, or the "oath test," or its religious color, if it has any; nor do they surrender one particle of their constitutional principles—not at all; but they are going to stand by the uprising of Northern labor. They regard this sentiment as American, national and right. My word for it, so soon as the question fully and openly takes this shape, which it is speedly doing, the South will go body and soul with this American movement; and an address from the North, say from amas meeting in the Park, Could not something be said about Cuba—something like this to the South, "You stand by us in our fight against pauperism in the shape of pauper labor from Europe, abolitionism and free negroism, and we will stand by you on the Cuba question." I believe f

servative man from the North, to Houston or any of his stripe, though they come from south of Mason & Dixon's line.

It is the impression here that Wise will be defeated in Virginia. The only chance of his election is in his getting the whig vote. As a member from Virginia remarked the other day, "the will be elected by a very large majority, or be badly beaten." It is most likely he will be be badly beaten—that is, if the American party occupy in public opinion, in the Old Dominion, the high national grounds I have suggested.

This is the true condition of the Know Nothing question at the South. Brooks, from South Carolina, early last session, made a great speech on this very issue, favoring the American party. Now is the time for him to lead off. I am told he has talents, courage and popularity. I am not yet well emough acquainted with him to speak of his "points," from my own knowledge. Why don't Brooks come out? Where are those Southern rights men who have always resisted the abolitionized party of the North? Will they place the South in opposition to the laboring masses of the Northern States, in the efforts of the latter to resist pauperism? Time will tell. The correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, some one lately said, says that labor in this country is to be yet lower, and assigns as the cause the rapidly increasing emigration. Very true. Alreacy there are over fifteen thousand families in the city of New York alone, and American labor is now driven unemployed to the very point of starvation itself, by European paper labor; and this correspondent to the Baltimore pressthinks there will be more of it. No doubt of that. But yet this appeal of American labor for protection from that flood of pauperism which is deluging the land and overflowing all the avenues of industry, is denounced as treason, and the valiant Sout is called upon to choke down this American meyeming the sun of the southern meyeming the superism and paupernues of industry, is denounced as treason, and the valiant South is called upon to choke down this American cry for bread. Let Southern men ponder over this. For if they lend thems:lives in opposition to this Northern movement against free negroism and pasperism in every shape, they would certainly receive, as they deserve, the deadly opposition of those who are now and have ever been their truest friends. Let the Southern people unite with the Northern masses in the Know Nothing camp upon this issue, to oppose the pasperising tendencies of abolitionism, and such abombination will sweep the South from stem to stern.

Nothing of importance was done to day in either house of Congress. The Senate went into an executive session in the afternoon, and, as I learned, after a long and exciting debate, rejected the nomination by the President of Mr. Grund, Consul to Marseilles

In the United States Supreme Court the case was argued of the "Propeller Monticello, John Wilson, inster and claimant and appellant, vs. Gilbert Mollison, libellant." This is a case of collision between the propellor Monticello and schooner North Western, on Lake Huron, in September, 1850, by which the latter and cargo were lost. The case was argued to day by R. H. Gillett, on the part of the appellants, and A. P. Grant, of Oswego, New York, on the part of the libellants. NELLE,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1884.

Our Mindster to Mexico—General Gadeden in Bad Odor—
The Monroe Dectrine Violated—The Belmont Correspondence—The Delegate from Kansas, &c., &c.
Things are approaching a crisis with the American Minister near the Mexican government, and Mr. Marcy is sore to the very quick with the total inefficiency of the dislocation of the dislocation of the dislocation of the dislocation of the dislocation. is sore to the very quick with the total inefficiency of his diplomatic course. It seems he has accomplished literally nothing towards obtaining from that government a recognition of the rights of the American citizens who are now suing for redress of injuries inflicted upon them by Mexico. It may be true that that poor and imbeelle government has not the funds with which to pay these indemnities, yet it was the duty of our Minister to require her to recognize the justice of our claims, though unable to pay them, and not permit the claimants to be placed in the false attitude of demanding what was not their due. The reason assigned for his inefficiency, by himself, is that Santa Anna was treated badly, very badly, by the United States, in not ratifying the treaty providing for five millions to be retained by this gov-

Supposition Specialistics of the May North

This being the case, as I have reason to believe, the probability is that if General G. does not desire a recall very shortly, some move will be made here to impress upon him the necessity of changing his locality; it may be as envey to some other government.

The heavty approval and remi-official sanction given to the Central American expedition, under Colonel Kinney, of Texas, by the organ of the administration, creates a good deal of amusing criticism here. Although it is a palpable violation of the Monroe doctrine, which President Pierce announced as his polar star in American policy, yet the Union is loud in its praises of the contemplated move, and seems willing to go as far as the farthest in supporting and backing up the enterprise. Why this deviation from the path chalked out by the President in his inaugural?

The correspondence between Mr. Belmont, our Minister it the Hague, and Mr. Marcy, Secretary of State, on the subject of Capt. Gibson's claim for indemnity from the Dutch government for imprisonment, detention and loss of property, will be communicated to Congress today, and will show what has been charged upon Mr. Belmont—that he has been making the fairest representations to our government in writing, while at the same time it can be shown, as I understand, he was secretly defeating his own efforts by privately making adverse representations to the Dutch authorities.

The new delegate from Kannas, (General Whitfield,) made his appearance in the Representative Hall yester-day, and was sworn in. General W. is a fire specimen of manhood, being upwards of six feet in height, straight as an Indian, well proportioused, prominent features, florid complexion, and a keen, sparkling eye—altogether, just the man to win in a new country.

the museum, located in the Patent Office Building t sent session a bill will be introduced to effect this object and that the place selected for these national curiosities and mementoes will be the Smithsonian Institute, in the large hall just finished. This will be a decided im-provement, as the feeble and infirm in health will not have to travel up several flight of stairs as at present

have to travel up several flight of stairs as at present to view them.

There have been several alterations made in the Smithsonian Institute during the present year, and those of a most useful character. A new lecture room has been fitted up, which will comfortably seat 1,500 persons. It is exceedingly well adapted for hearing as well as seeing from all parts. 1 understand that it will be opened to morrow night for the first time, when a lecture will be given.

Q.

\$38,643.818 \$30,333,311 At 100 per cent. One year. Ac'ye for siz y'rs. At 40, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and b per cent.

\$40,907,718

000,000. He estimates the expenditure of this year, exclusive of disbursements for redemption of debt, at \$84, 385,000. His ascertained and estimated receipts for the year are \$64,000,000. But it is manifest that the expenditures for this year are under estimated, and the receipts over estimated. Mr. Secretary Dobbin wants nine more war steamers, and he will probably get them from this obedient Congress. This will take \$4,600,000. Col. Davis asks for four additional regiments of troops. That item will ad \$3,000,000 to this year's expenses. So that the usual and ordinary expenditures will not fall below \$70,000,000 for the year. Now the revenue is failing off at the rate of \$2,000,000 a month, and the entire decrease for the year, from customs, will be at the present rate, about \$17,000,000, and may go to twenty millions. The receipts of the whole year, therefore, cannot be calculated at over sixty millions, allowing for full sales of public lands. I think \$47, 40e millions in to below the true mark. There will be then an actual dedict of means arising within the year, and the present surplus of twenty-five millions will be reduced to ten millions on the late of July next.

The friends of the protective polley should exert themselves to postyone all actions on the subject until the meeting of another Congress, when the actual state of the revenue will no duties. But the question to be decided is also one of principle, which must not be disregarded, we must have protection to home Industry. The country is ripe for it, and demands it. That is the principle which was recognized in forming the taril of 1842, and which was blinked in the preparation of that of 1940. The operation of the tarif of 1942 was beneficent and successful. Its successor appeared to operate passably well during the times of high prosperity caused by the enormous fereign demand for our breadstuffs, and by the indus of California gold, but with the reflux of the tilling to the confirming the properity caused by the enormous fereign demands in th

strong feelings among parties on both sides of that dispute.

Washington, Dec. 19, 1854.

The Reported Transfer of West India Islands to Prance, &c.

There is some conversation over a report that a negotiation is in progress for the transfer to France of all the British possessions in the West Indies, as an equivalent for the extraordinary exertions and sacrifices which will be required of the French in the Eastern war. The great want of the allies is men. England can furnish money, ships and material, but cannot raise the treops. This negotiation is said to be the special object of Lord Palmersten's mission to Paris. The policy which dictates this important ecssion is understood to be this:—
The United States appear determined to annex all the West Indies. After the acquisition of Cuba and Porto Rice, Hayti would naturally fall a prey to its system of expansion. After that the policy of the republic would be directed to the acquisition of Jamaica and the other British islands.

The home government has still ample means to defend them; but her interests require the continuance of peace with the United States. Her manufactures would be ruined were her supplies of American cotton to be cut off for a single year: and American grain, in years of European scarcity, may be the only resource of the British population to arrest the horrors of famine. It would not be warth while to hazard these wast interests

members of the government by close political observers in Europe.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Ledger.]

Washington, Dec. 19, 1854.

Mediation between Russis and the Allied Powers.

Mr. Clingman is ready to support his preposition to offer the mediation of the United States is certainly in a better position to act the mediathr between Russis on the one side and the allied powers on the other, than either Prussis or Austria, involved as they themselves are, or are likely soon to be, in the contest. The United States can afford to be neutral, and wise statesmanship prompts them to remain so. But as some of our diplomaticagents have had various questions to discuss, and may, in this manner, have aroused some prejudices against them, it is best (thinks Mr. Clingman) that a commission should be appointed for that purpose, and that the wissest men, enjoying the highest public and private consideration, should be its members. General Cass, the Hon. George M. Dallas, and the Hon. Howell Cobb, Late Speaker of the House of Representatives, have been named in and out of Congress for this important mission, which, if it succeeded, would do more to increase our standing and influence as a world power than the whole conquest of Mexico.

[Correspondence of the Pennsylvanian.]

mission, which, if it succeeded, would do more to increase our standing and influence as a world power than the whole conquest of Mexico.

[Correspondence of the Pennsylvanian.]

\*\*Mexicoror, Dec. 20, 1854.\*

The Konsa Delegate—The Presidency of the Senate—Appointments, de., de.

General Whitfield, the delegate from the new Territory of Kansas, after the customary oath had been administered to him, took his seat in the House to-day. Judging from the sensation he produced among his fellow-members, it is not at all surprising that he was elected to Congress by a vote so overwhelmingly large. He is about six feet five inches in his stockings, well and powerfully put together, has a fine, open manly coun tenance, and is in the prime of life—say about forty years old. The General is a native of Tenaessee, and is a sound national democrat. He took the stump in Kansas in favor of the following three issues:—The compromize of 1850; the Baltimore platform; and the great principle embodied in the Nebraska bill. The result is that General Whitfield now occupies a seat in Congress, and his opponent, Mr. Flenniken, has returned to his home in Uniontown, Pennsylvanis.

Senator Atchison has not arrived, although he is daffy looked for. It is understood that on the election of Mr. Bright to the Presidency of the Senate, he addressed a letter to Mr. Atchison, in which he expressed an intention to rosign the office on Mr. A.'s return to Washington. The latter gentleman, in his reply, positively declined to avail himself of the courtesy of Mr. Bright.

Mr. A. G. Allen, the popular Navy Agent at this place has resigned his office. Mr. A. G. Greenleaf, for many years a resident of this city, has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. B. W. Latham, Pension Agent at this point, has resigned his office.

Congress is striving to improve the paper currency of this unfortunate District. Any change would be an improvement, for notwithstanding the millions upon millions of specie which has exceeded in Washington annually, our circulating

Fairman F. Taber, Postmaster at Natchitoches. Jacob C. Martin, Receiver of Public Moneys at Little

Our Albany Correspondence.
ALBANY, Dec. 21, 1854.

The Capitol Improved—Library Convenience for Members

The members of the new Legislature will find the interior of the Capitol improved, and better suited and fitted for public business than ever. The small capacity of the Assembly Chamber has been a great inconvenie for many sessions. The absence of rooms for commit-tees and private consultation has been an annoyance almost insupportable. The miserable location and arnounced and complained of by both the public at larg and the members of the Legislature during many past pears. But all these, and various other inconveniences, have been obviated, and the Capitol now pre-sents an extremely inviting aspect. The Assem-bly Chamber presents the most extensive improvesome twenty feet to the rear—adding rooms and pas-sages for ingress and egress. The chamber is newly stery, &c., new desks, chairs, manufactured expressly for the purpose. The decorations of the chamber were committed to the excellent taste of the Rev. Dr. Jehn N. Campbell, who has displayed his skill with entire satispresumption to object; and they threaten the presentation of a resolution changing the green curtains for some others of a different color. "Sam" thinks he can mus-

The library building is also about complete, and the books, records, and other valuable property, mostly arranged. The interior is admirably arranged, and is a splendid specimen of architecture and workmanship, unqualled anywhere in the State, and but for the fatal error in not furnishing sufficient quantity of daylight, would be a perfect model of a public building. Being only supplied with light from one side, and partially from the roof, gas light, in broad daylight, is necessarily used in many of the alcoves on the westerly side. The corridors, one from the ante-room of the Assembly Chamber, another leading from the Court of Appeals room, readers it very convenient for members of the Legislature to consult the library in their search for any information required concerning any portion of the civilized world.

My corrrespondence of yesterday stated that Governor

legislature to consult the library in their search for any information required concerning any portion of the civilized world.

My correspondence of yesterday stated that Governor Clark had selected only one of his military staff. I now find, in a Rochester paper of yesterday, a supposition that the following gentlemen will be commissioned, via: Benjamin F. Bruce, of Madison county, Inspector General; Joseph J. Chambers, of Albany, Rigneer-in-Chief; James L. Mitchell, of Albany, Quartermaster General; E. E. Kendrick, of Albany, Paymaster General; E. H. Schermerhorn, of New York, J. B. Gale, of Troy, and John Bill, of Albany, alus, and Sam. G. Thompson, of New York, Military Secretary. General Bruce held the same position under Governor Hunt, but left no decided characteriatic of his military taient, though he was successful in receiving his five dollars per day, including Sundays, for the two years. Whilst the city of New York, comprising the first military division, and the only complete organization in the entire State, is allowed one Ald and Military Secretary, whose duties are only nominal, the city of Albany, without even a single regiment fit for drill or review, has the honor of being represented by four members in Governor Clark's military family. The Commander-in-Chief that is to be has not yet announced his Adjutant General; and it is understood that whilst he has the names of such competent military men as General Swan, General Fullerton, Col. Postley, Col. Cooke, and others, he hestates and leans towards a candidate at Tivoli, Dutchess county. The militia of this state has suffered for many years for the want of competency at headquarters, and it may be that ignorance and audacity will continue.

Legal Intelligence.

Supreme Court of the United States.—Drc. 19.—No. 5. Grey P. Webb et al., w. Lessee of Polly Weatherhead. Error to the Circuit Court United States for the middle district of Tennessee. Mr. Justice Grier delivered the opinion of this court, affirming the judgment of the said Circuit Court in this cause, with costs. No. 3. Arthurs, Nicholson & Co. w. Jesse Hart. Error to the Circuit Court United States for the eastern district of Iouisians. Mr. Justice Nelson delivered the opinion of this court, reversing the judgment of the said Circuit Court, with costs, and remanding the cause for further proceedings to be had therein, in conformity to law and justice, and the opinion of this court. No. 2. Pierre Barribeau et al vs. Joshus B. Brant. Appeal from the Circuit Court United States for the district of Missouri. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this court, diministing the appeal, with costs. No. 19. Alexander M. Lawrence et al., claimants of the ship Hornet, appellants, vs. Charles Minturn. The argument of this cause was concluded by Mr. Cutting for the appellants. No. 23. The propeller Monticello, John Wilson, claimant, &c., appellant, vs. Gilbert Mollison. The argument of this cause was commenced by Mr. Gillet for the appellant, Adjourned.

THE BENEFIT OF St. PAUL'S CHURCH.—The social teameeting at St. Paul's M. E. Church, in South Sixth street, on Wednesday evening, was well attended, and passed off pleasantly. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Hare, J. B. Wakely and H. Matteson, pastors of Messers. Hare, J. B. Wahely and H. Matteson, pastors of Methodist churches in New York, Rev. Messers. H. W. McClure and P. D. Van Cleif, pastors of Reformed Dutch churches in Jersey City, and Rev. Mr. Verrinder, of the Baptist church, Jersey City. The singing was excellent. A bountiful supper was served in the basement. The profits of the affair will be about \$200, to be applied to the benefit of the church.

BOAD ROBERY.—Two boys called at Mr. Warron's feed store, in Newark avenue, on Wednesday, and wasted two bundles of straw. While the clerk was getting it the boys robbed the money drawer of \$15, and except detection.

ARRIVAL OF PAUPERS FROM BELGION.

Twelve Supposed Convicts put in the Tomb -Their own Relation of the Matter.

We published in the HERALD of yesterday an acco of the arrival of the packet ship Rochambeau, Captain Stackpole, from Antwerp, with about one hundred and Stackpole, from Antwerp, with about one hundred and sixty passengers, twelve of whom are supposed to be convicts, and the remainder paupers. The attention of our city authorities was directed to the matter by our Consul at Antwerp, who, in a letter to the Collector of this port—Mr. Redfield—received some time before the arrival of the vessel, expressed his belief that a number of her passengers are convicted criminals, and that they were sent here at the expense of the Belgian government. On the arrival of the vessel she was boarded by Sergeant Bell, of the Mayor's office, in composed criminals in charge and brought them to the city eaving the remainder to the care of the Commission of Emigration. The twelve were committed to the Tombs to await an examination, which will be held at

ten o'clock this morning.

As there appeared to be some uncertainty in regard to
the true character of these men, we paid them a visit
yesterday, desiring to obtain an account of the adair
from themselves. They were all confined in colls like he other prisoners; but so far as their appearance might be considered as expressive of their character, they did not certainly look like criminals. All were provided with massports, with a very few exceptions, and these ha certificates of good moral character. Among those with whom we conversed was one named Delahaie, who had served five years in Africa in the French service, and fifteen in the Belgian army. He had several certificates from his officers, and showed us, with the pride of an old soldier, the honorable discharges he had obtained of the price of the contract of t tained after a period of twenty years in the ranks. Among his papers was a recommendation from the Gov-ernor of West Flanders, bearing his seal and other marks of authority. He had become reduced in circumstances, and being unable to procure relief, he accepted the offer of the government to pay his passage to this coun-try rather than enter a poorhouse in his own. In the same cell with him was another, named Lambert Souenir, who had also been several years in the Belgian

ficutenant in the same service, and subsequently be-came a travelling agent for a dry goods establishment. In this capacity, however, he did not appear to have succeeded very well, and having falled in procuring other employment, he came to this country as a last resort, the government having offered to defray his ex-penses. At one time, while he was relating his story, he became quite excited and indignant at the idea of being thrown into a prison immediately on his coming would like, he told us, to have been able to show us his certificates, but they were locked up in his trunk, and that had been taken from him. This he regarded as a great outrage, and he asked, with much warmth, if poverty was reason than that he was poor was to be consigned to a prison. Through some mistake his name had not been entered upon the keeper's book. As we were leaving him, he expressed his willingness to work at any occuto be an educated man, and appeared to feel the degraded position in which he had been placed most keenly.

The story of all these men was the same. The mayors of the different cities from which they came had asked them, on their petitioning for work, if they would not prefer to go to America if they were provided with the means; and they expressed their willingness, under the impression that, once here, they would have no difficulty in procuring employment. They also accepted it as the only way in which they could escape the poorhouse, in which some of them acknowledged having lived a short time previous to their departure. The expense of supporting a pauper in the depots de mendicite, as they are called, is from twenty live to thirty-two centimes per day, which is equal to about six cents. Whenever it can do it successfully, the Belgian government, or rather the communes, never omit an opportunity to save their own treasury by throwing their paupers on us for support. But they are not the only parties that have pursued this system-it has been carried on by other European governments as well as the Belgian. It we hope the matter will be subjected to a most rigid investigation this morning. Several years ago, it may be remembered, East and West Flanders were in a most impoverished condition—that is the working classes substitute for manual labor. The typhus fever raged with fearful violence, too, among the most destitute, and the government, as the only means of relief, presented them with the epportunity of emigrating to the United States. A few took advantage of it, but the great majority preferred to take their chances in the land of their birth to leaving it for one in which they would meet none but tirely different from their own.

All who are now in the city prison told us-

though in separate cells, their statements agreed in every particular—that when they went on board the Rochambeau, at Autwerp, they were in charge of gens d'armes, or policemen, and from this fact it is probable the suspicions of our Consul originated. When the vessel was boarded by Sergeant Bell he told them that they would have to accompany him to the office of the Belgian consul, who would provide them with money and render them whatever other assistance they might require their willingness to take their oaths that they never before been in a prison for any crime or offer they attempted to resist the officers in the their duty, is without the slightest foundation, as Mr. had, while in Antwerp waiting for the vessel to sail, been lodged in one of the prisons, but they were com-On leaving the Tombs we went to the Mayor's office

where we found Sergeant Bell, who told us that they had while under his charge, conducted themselves in a most peaceable manuer, and evinced their willingness to g with him wherever he desired to take them. Whil had arrived from Antwerp in the Sarah G. Hyde, an who had been in the city two days looking for employ ment. He had been at the office of the Belgian Consul, and that official, unable to do anything for him, sent bim to the Commissioners of Emigration, by whom he was again sent, in company with one of their clerks, named Wermerskirch, to th Mayor's office. Mr. W. had introduced him to the notice of the officials here as a convict, and told us that Bracek mans had acknowledged this himself. When we asked him he said he had never told the clerk anything of the kind, and when brought before him he stoutly denied having by his appearance. "I could tell," said he, "every con-vict by his looks, and know that this man must have been at Alest"—one of the Belgian prisons.

what became of Braeckmans after we left. Notwith standing Mr. Wermerskirch's wonderful perception, we could not see anything in the open and ingensious features of the poor fellow which would lead us to suppose that he was a criminal. There were many in the office at the time who looked more like one than he. We next visited the Collector then what wes contained in the letter, and that was based entirely upon suspicion. The Belgian Consul was no better informed, the first inkling which he had of the matter having been obtained from the morning pa-pers. He had been making inquiries of the Mayor, as we had; but upon this point that worthy official declared himself to be a Know Nothing. The examination this morning may lead to more satisfactory results, however.

Domestic Miscellany.

Governor Price, of Missouri, has commuted the sectence of Charles Pinkley, the Sta. Geneviere wife murderer, to thirty years imperisonment in the penitentiary Jeff. Kvans, late a member of the bar, and once a member of the Kentucky Legislature, has been sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for largery.

MORE WRECKS.

Safety of Her Passengers-Ship Supp Ashere on Long Island-Schooners Ad and Isabel Ashere-Other Disasters.

Information reached the city yesterday morning the packet ship St. Patrick was ashore at Barnegat. The St. Patrick is commanded by Capt. Whitman, and salled from Liverpool Nov. 15 for this city, with upwards of 400 passengers, and consigned to David Ogden.

The assident occurred at 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening, when the vessel struck the shore two miles south of

possible; to distinguish at any distance, and the wind

The passengers were all saved, and arrived up to the city yesterday morning in several fishing schooners. They number 436, sixty of them came up in the Med Buntline, seventy in the Statesman, sixty-six in the George Moore, fifty-one in the King of the Forest, fifty-two in the Empire State, and sixty-nine in the Albert Haley, all fishing schooners, which fortunately were in

The St. Patrick was of 896 tons, built at Newburyport, Mr. David Ogden, and was insured for \$41,000 in this city, equally divided between several offices in Wall street. She had 900 tons of coal, besides salt, iron, &c., valued at \$80,000, covered by insurance. Her freight money was not insured. The ship was valued at \$44,000.

The captains of the schooners report that when they left her, on Wednesday evening, there was every probaheavily, and had seven feet of water in her hold. A quantity of iron and other cargo had been thrown over

The news was first brought to the city early in the morning by the pilot boat Thomas H. Smith, who saw here early on Wednesday morning, when she appeared high and dry, with all her spars standing. The pilot boat reports the weather so bad on Tuesday evening and night that it was impossible to reef. The boat was also covered

The steam tug Titan, with a lighter in tow, with at pumps, &c., were immediately despatched to her relief by the underwriters. If the weather kept moderate it is

presumed she will be askeat again.

A ship, hailing from Brunawick, Me., was also reported to be ashere yesterday at Moriches, on Long Island, the scene of the unfortunate disaster to the Franklin. The report is stated to have con conductor of the Long Island Railroad, who message handed to him on the road, directed f of W. S. Swift & Co., of this city. From this ferred that the vessel was the Masonic, from with passengers, daily expected at this port, be

rived during the afternoon, all safe.
The arrival of the 3 o'clock Long Island to pected to bring further information regarding but did not. We were informed in the even train from Yaphank, which is immediately riches, had arrived without confirming the last evening, nothing had reached them accept though they have agents all along the coast, whose besiness it is to immediately transmit the fact of any dis-aster immediately upon its occurrence. It may probable

Ellwood Walter, Esq., the Secretary of the Board of Underwriters, received a despatch yesterday, dated Nex-folk, Dec. 21, stating that the schooner Adrian, of Sa-vannab, from Leghorn for New York, was on shorest there leading to the school of the schoo The pilot boat Moses H. Grinnell was also reported

ashore yesterday. We were subsequently informed that she got ashore on the point of the Hoot, but fortunately succeeded in floating again, supposed without damage.

The bark Georgia, arrived yesterday from Dublin, has a bolsterous passage, having experienced heavy westerly gales during the whole time. She had her deck house washed away, stove her life boat, and lost jib-boom, sails, &c. She was thirty-nine days west of Sable

The schooner Kingfisher, arrived from Gonaives, erne On 16th inst., in lat. 36 10, lon. 73 55, she spoke a brig from Savannah for Baltimore, under jury masts, having

been dismasted two days before. The schooner Planter, (of Dennis Captain Baker, is 30, saw a vessel with a signal of distress flying, and or running down to her discovered it to be the Planter in a sinking condition, with the crew exhausted from their exertions in bailing. All hands, six in number, well immediately taken on board the ship, but it blow very strong at the time they were able to save noth more than they stood in. The distressed mariners were treated with every kindness by Captain Thompson, & the Lady Franklin, for which they desire publicly to re-

turn their warmost thanks.
Unfortunately, the Lady Franklin, while in tow in the pected to be got off next high water.

The bark Venus, arrived yesterday from Curacoa, re-ports on Dec. 8, in about lat. 22, Ion. 69, making out a wreck to the westward, and on bearing down to within tons, apparently British, but could not see her name. She was water-logged, and the sea was making a clear breach over her. Her main and mizen masts were standing, and the main yard aloft; her anchors to the represented a crowned Neptune in the centre. She had probably been bearded previously, as the mizen master

The Venus also passed on the 17th, in lat. 37 10, lon. The Venus also passed on the 17th, in lat. 37 20, tom. 73 30, a quantity of cotton bales and some pine logs. The Venus reports the death of Daniel Benjamin, st. Curacoa, on the 27th of November, of fever. Two others—Thos. McCarthy and John Nichols—were left at the hospital there, sick with the fever.

Malaga, had suffered by the bad weather, having lost her foretopgaliant mast, and had most of her sails blown away, besides receiving other damage. She had been twenty-seven days to the westward of Bermuda, with

heavy gales.

The Gem of the Sea spoke, on the 18th inst., the Bri ish vessel Helen Maud, of Halifax, bound to this city from Jamaica, with loss of most of her sails.

A large quantity of lumber came arent miles,) a few place, on the Sound shore, (about seven miles,) a few says ago, supposed to have been swept from the de of a vessel, or to have come from Connecticut. The names Tinker, Dusen and Copeland are marked on some

WRECE OF THE SHIP SUNNY SOUTH, AND THE SCHOONER VALLONIA.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 21, 1864. Advices from Nassau to the 9th inst. report the sehr. Advices from Nassau to the 9th inst. report the scar. J Vallonis, of Halifax, (N. S.,) as having gone ashore one Whale Cay, and afterwards getting off; also of the ship-Sunny South, from New Orleans for New York, with a cargo of two thousand bales of cotton, being wrecked. off Bahama Bank, on the 25th ult. Twelve hundred.

the vessel had gone to pieces,

There was no salt at Turk's Island, and the demand: for it at Inagua exceeded the supply—the price was thirty cents, and tending upwards. Flour was fifty shillings per barrel.

WRECK OF THE SCHOONER ISABEL

CAPE ISLAND, N. J., Dec. 21, 1854. The schooner isobel went ashore this morning, opposite Congress Hall, and is a total loss. The crew clung to the rigging until daylight, when they were recound by

BADTMORR, Dec. 21, 1864.

The bark Loretto Fish, Chase, bound to New Orleans from Turks Islands, with a cargo of sait, was totally recked on Bahama reef. The crew were all saved

Passel Midshipman Frederick F. Bross, of the United States Navy, died in Georgetown, Ohio, on the Sin inst., aged 24 years.